

Senate Bill No. 1488

Passed the Senate August 27, 2004

Secretary of the Senate

Passed the Assembly August 27, 2004

Chief Clerk of the Assembly

This bill was received by the Governor this _____ day of
_____, 2004, at _____ o'clock __M.

Private Secretary of the Governor

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CHAPTER _____

An act relating to the Public Utilities Commission.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1488, Bowen. Public Utilities Commission: public information.

Under existing law, the Public Utilities Commission has regulatory authority over public utilities. Existing provisions of the Public Utilities Act require every public utility to furnish reports as the commission may require. Existing law, with certain exceptions, requires each electrical corporation subject to regulation by the commission to submit prescribed procurement plans for review and approval by the commission. Existing law requires the commission to adopt procedures to ensure confidentiality of market sensitive information in proposed procurement plans or resulting from, or related to, procurement plans approved by the commission, including procedures for access by the Office of Ratepayer Advocates and consumer groups that are nonmarket participants. No information furnished to the commission by a public utility, except those matters specifically required to be open to public inspection, are open to public inspection or made public except by order of the commission or a commissioner in the course of a hearing or proceeding.

This bill would require the commission to initiate proceedings to examine its practices with respect to these confidentiality requirements and the California Public Records Act to ensure that these practices provide for meaningful public participation and open decisionmaking.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. The Public Utilities Commission shall initiate a proceeding to examine its practices under Sections 454.5 and 583 of the Public Utilities Code and the California Public Records Act (Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 6250) of Division 7 of Title 1 of the Government Code) to ensure that the commission's practices under these laws provide for meaningful public participation and open decisionmaking.



Approved _____, 2004

Governor

